

best pilots because we simply do not take care of them.

We frequently ask our men and women in the military to leave their families, fight for our national security, and even die for our freedom and liberty. Yet, we do not provide our service personnel with the pay or equipment it takes to get the job done right. It is appalling that even one of these families must seek welfare just to put food on the table and buy clothes for their children. I honestly believe that the authorization we have before us today will go a long way in correcting this problem.

I urge my colleagues to support this conference report, which will prove a boon to the dedicated soldiers in our armed services.

SIDNEY PEERLESS, M.D., TO RECEIVE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE HONOR

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 21, 1999

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, the American Jewish Committee's Cincinnati Chapter will soon give special recognition to one of my most distinguished constituents and a good friend, Sidney Peerless, M.D. On October 9, Dr. Peerless will be presented with the prestigious Community Service Award.

Dr. Peerless, an otolaryngologist and plastic surgeon, is well known and respected as a physician. He has directed the otolaryngology department at both Providence and Jewish Hospitals, and he was president of the medical staff at Jewish Hospital. Dr. Peerless is a clinical professor at the University of Cincinnati, and was recently honored by the University for his contributions to teaching.

A committed community leader, Dr. Peerless has been a member of the boards of the Jewish National Fund; Bonds for Israel; the Cincinnati Zoo; Children's Hospital; Shaare Zedek Hospital; and Jewish Hospital. Dr. Peerless has received numerous awards, including the Cincinnati Academy of Medicine's Daniel Drake Award for service to the Cincinnati community and to patients, and an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree from Hebrew Union College.

Dr. Peerless was born in Cincinnati and graduated from the University of Cincinnati. He has five children and fourteen grandchildren.

All of us in the Cincinnati area congratulate Dr. Peerless on receiving this prestigious and well deserved award, and we commend him for his lifelong dedication to his patients and his community.

IN HONOR OF AMERICAN MUSLIM ALLIANCE ON THE OCCASION OF THE 4TH ANNUAL AMA NATIONAL CONVENTION

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 21, 1999

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the leadership of the American Mus-

lim Alliance (AMA) and all the convention participants on the occasion of the Fourth Annual AMA National Convention being held in Orlando, Florida.

Political participation in the electoral process is important for every American. I commend the participants of AMA for its activity in gaining knowledge and making the necessary contacts for full involvement in the American political process.

I commend the AMA for its ability to rise above basic participation to motivating American Muslims to become active participants in public office. AMA local and national organizers, through leadership training sessions held in several states, have set the groundwork for American Muslims themselves to run for elected positions. By encouraging Muslims to run for public office, the AMA has brought political participation among the Muslim community to a higher level.

It is evident that AMA has played a crucial role in training and educating American Muslims nationwide about the political process. My colleagues, please join me in honoring AMA and its convention participants for this conference that will hopefully motivate more Muslims to consider a future in public service.

SALUTE TO TERRY AND CAROLE YORK

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 21, 1999

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Terry and Carole York, who are being honored this year by the Boys & Girls Club of San Fernando Valley as the recipients of their Golden Hands Award. Terry and Carole have, for decades, given unstintingly of their time, talents and resources to worthy organizations throughout the San Fernando Valley. Their dedication and sense of compassion, especially where children are concerned, know no bounds and their altruism and community spirit serves as a shining example.

The Yorks have been among the strongest boosters of the Boys & Girls Club of San Fernando Valley for over 25 years. During that time their support has enabled the club to assist hundreds of youth from underprivileged backgrounds get a fresh start with their lives.

Terry and Carole have also been strong supporters of the City of Hope, American Cancer Society, March of Dimes, and a myriad of other civic, charitable, and humanitarian causes. On her own, Carole has worked as a volunteer with Penny Lane, a home for girls in need, and has been involved with Olive View Medical Center.

While contributing tirelessly to their community, the Yorks have raised a close and devoted family of four. Carole paints, gardens and loves to spoil her two grandchildren. Terry is a successful and distinguished businessman. Within 5 years, he moved from file clerk to general manager and part owner of an auto dealership. Today there are 10 franchises in the Terry York Automotive Group. His best sale, he loves to say, was to his future wife, over 30 years ago.

I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting Terry and Carole York, who have made a positive difference in the lives of so many. I wish the best to both of them, their children, Todd, Natalie, Tom, and Tiffany, and their two grandchildren, Logan and Weston.

REFLECTING ON THE 150 NEW YEARS OF THE SAN FRANCISCO JEWISH COMMUNITY

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 21, 1999

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, in recent days, Jews around the world have celebrated the High Holy Days of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. As these religious holidays have been commemorated, the Jewish community of San Francisco has marked a particular milestone—the 150th anniversary of the Jewish community of San Francisco. The contributions that its members have made to the civic, charitable, and economic well-being of the Bay Area are truly extraordinary, and the history of Jewish life in San Francisco merits both our attention and our admiration.

Mr. Speaker, 150 years ago, during the brief interval between the Mexican-American War and the Civil War, pioneers and risk-takers from around the world descended upon San Francisco. These individuals represented every imaginable race and ethnic origin, united only by their desire to find gold in their mining pans and win an instant fortune. Some 100,000 fortune-seeking "Forty Niners" arrived in the Bay Area in the year after President James K. Polk announced the discovery of gold at Sutter's Fort in his State of the Union address in December 1848.

Among the multitude drawn to San Francisco was a small number of Jews, some from the eastern states of our country and other from as far away as Poland, Prussia, and Bavaria. They joined the dynamic melting pot of people with a great diversity of backgrounds and views, and helped to create the uniquely diverse cultural life that flourishes in San Francisco to this day.

In recognition of the critical contributions of the Jewish community to the City of San Francisco and to the entire Bay Area, I would like to place in the RECORD a September 10, 1999, article by Don Lattin of the San Francisco Chronicle which details the birth of Jewish life in the Bay Area 150 years ago. This article is part of a series of articles that have appeared over the past year in connection with the sesquicentennial of the discovery of gold in California and the events connected with California's accession to the Union in 1850 as the 31st state.

[From the San Francisco Chronicle, Sept. 10, 1999]

SAN FRANCISCO JEWS' 150 NEW YEARS

(By Don Lattin)

San Francisco's Gold Rush brought adventure seekers and fortune hunters from around the world, and the "Israelites," as they were called at the time, were no exception.

One-hundred fifty years ago this month, 30 pioneer Jews from Poland, Prussia, Bavaria